

REMARKS

Status of Application

Claims 1-39 are pending in the application. Claims 1, 2, 15, 16 and 25 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by Mohri (US 6,515,669). Claims 3-6 and 17-18 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Mohri in view of Rafii et al. (US 6,512,838).

Preliminary Matters

Applicants thank the Examiner for acknowledging all claims for foreign priority and confirming receipt of the certified copies of the priority document.

Claim Rejections - 35 U.S.C. § 102

Claims 1, 2, 15, 16 and 25 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by Mohri (US 6,515,669).

Claim 1 recites, in part, “adaptively configuring the 3D input device based on the recognition results.” The Examiner alleges that Mohri discloses each of the elements of claim 1. Applicants respectfully disagree.

Mohri discloses an operation input device applied to a three-dimensional input device. Specifically, Mohri discloses a detection device which connects to a user’s hand and fingertips in order to provide control of delicate work and operation without interference. One of the specific desires of Mohri is to provide *a simple system configuration*. See col. 2, lines 1 and 2. Mohri uses hand shape detection means and spatial coordinate detection means, among others, to generate a control command for an outside machine. However, as noted above, claim 1 requires that the *configuration* of the 3D input device is based on the recognition results, not that a control command is based on the recognition results. Rather, Mohri indicates the configuration of the

device does not change, regardless of the hand and finger positioning. Therefore, claim 1 is patentable over the applied art.

Claim 15 recites limitations similar to claim 1, and is patentable for reasons analogous to claim 1. Claims 2, 16 and 25 are patentable at least by virtue of their respective dependencies.

Claim Rejections - 35 U.S.C. § 103

Claims 3-6 and 17-18 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Mohri in view of Rafii et al. (US 6,512,838).

Claims 3-6 and 17-18 are dependent from claims 1 and 15. Because Mohri fails to disclose each of the elements of claims 1 and 15, and because Rafii fails to cure the deficiencies noted with respect to claims 1 and 15, claims 3-6 and 17-18 are dependent from claims 1 and 15.

Conclusion

In view of the above, reconsideration and allowance of this application are now believed to be in order, and such actions are hereby solicited. If any points remain in issue which the Examiner feels may be best resolved through a personal or telephone interview, the Examiner is kindly requested to contact the undersigned at the telephone number listed below.

The USPTO is directed and authorized to charge all required fees, except for the Issue Fee and the Publication Fee, to Deposit Account No. 19-4880. Please also credit any overpayments to said Deposit Account.

Respectfully submitted,

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